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For Immediate Release

PLASTICS AND DIE CAST DIVISION ELECTS 2008 COUNCIL AND OFFICERS

September 15, 2008. The Plastics & Die Cast Division of the Hobby Manufacturers Association elected the following members to serve on their council for 2008-09 each serving a two year term:



Don Banes, Stevens International

Don has served the Model Hobby Industry for well over 17 years, initially in the retail side from 1991 to 1994, and thereafter as a sales rep and (eventually) Product Development Manager for Stevens International. In his product development capacity, Don has selected and brought to the hobby market numerous, limited production plastic model kits (trucks and automobiles), along with various hobby related accessories. He oversees each new product brought to the hobby market by Stevens International, from its inception and design, to final delivery.



Mark Fothergill, Replicarz

Mark Founded Replicarz in 1989 with just one line of models. Presently they offer over 50 different brands of finished die cast models ranging from tiny 1:87 scale up to very large 1:4 scale models. Mark's years of experience in the model industry will benefit HMA and it's members, as he looks forward to the tasks ahead of the association and strengthening the hobby as a whole. Mark is serving his second two-year term on the Council.



Chuck Harransky, MMD Squadron

Re-elected to the PDC Council is Chuck Harransky, vice president of MMD-Squadron-VLS-AeroMaster/Eagle Strike in Carrollton, Texas. Chuck has worked in the model hobby industry for over 42 years and was elected by the council to serve as one of their representatives to the HMA Board of Directors.



Alain Morot, Minichamps N.A.

Also re-elected is Alain Morot with Minichamps in Miami, Florida, who has been introducing, importing and distributing model hobby products into the USA for over 25 years. He is a native of France and enjoys collecting vintage 1/1 automobiles.



Darin Stratton, b2b Replicas

Darin and his wife entered the die-cast toy and model business as a true “basement” start-up in 1995. Leveraging the reach of the rapidly expanding internet market, they were able to make it a full-time pursuit in 1999. Today their combined distribution and retail businesses employ 18 individuals and ships nearly 30,000 orders annually. b2bReplicas has been an exhibitor at both iHobby and the NRHSA show since 2005. Darin is primarily responsible for marketing, finance, and ecommerce systems.

Elected to their second terms as president and vice president of the Plastics & Die Cast Division Council are Rob Gherman, Publisher of Hobby Merchandiser magazine and Ed Sexton, Vice President of Model Rectifier Corporation. Continuing to serve on the council are: Bob Johnson of Accurate Miniatures and Ernie Petit of Hawk/Lindberg Models.

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